

A1
brought into close contact with the outer surface of the stuffing tube 4.--

Please change the paragraph starting on page 12, line 20 to read as follows:

--The controlling means 15 may be provided with a means for changing the transporting speed V of the transporting means 11 on the basis of the detection signal 14. As the means for changing the transporting speed V of the transporting means 11, it is possible to use a device for changing the number of revolutions of a shaft 23. This device is, for example, a clutch brake attached to the shaft 23, a number-of-revolution controlling device (an inverter, a driver for a servo motor) of the motor 24, or an electromagnetic switch for starting and stopping the motor 24. If the controlling means 15 upon receiving the detection signal 14 is arranged to decelerate the transporting speed V of the transporting means 11, the lengths l and LL can be shortened appropriately, so that this arrangement is suitable for use of the natural intestine casing 5 of the type which is difficult to slide on the stuffing tube 4.--

A2
In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 7, and 8 to read as follows:

A3
--1. (Amended) A method for manufacturing natural intestine sausages, comprising the steps of: fitting a natural intestine casing over a stuffing tube in a state in which the natural intestine casing is divided into a shirred portion and a straight portion;